Activation of Extradition Treaty between India and Nepal

2706. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether India and Nepal, during the recent visit of Nepalese Prime Minister, have agreed to activate the bilateral extradition treaty which was signed in 1953;

(b) whether any new treaty has been signed with certain modification; and

(c) if so, the details of the agreements and contents of the treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) During the recent visit of the Nepalese Prime Minister to India from March 20—25, 2002, the two Prime Ministers noted the outcome of the Home Secretary-level talks on the bilateral extradition treaty between India and Nepal stressed the need for expeditious implementation of the decisions taken during that meeting, including an early conclusion of the Agreement for Mutual Legal Assistance and updating the Extradition Treaty.

American influence in stopping Pakistan sponsored cross border terrorism

†2707. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have used American influence in stopping Pakistan for meeting cross-border terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any change has been in Pakistan's policy towards terrorism after these efforts by India?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government has kept the international community, including the United States, informed about Pakistani involvement in fomenting cross border terrorism in India, particularly in the context of the global campaign against terrorism. There is now increasing realization of the fact that despite professions to the contrary, Pakistan remains deeply involved with terrorist groups. The widespread consensus in the international community is that there is no justification for terrorism, which must be eradicated wherever it exists.

(c) While Pakistan has taken some cosmetic and superficial measures as part of their so-called 'crack down' against terrorist groups in Pakistan, its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India has continued unabated. The Pakistani leaders including its President have also reverted to Pakistan's time-worn and untenable formulations on terrorism, including seeking to justify continued terrorist violence in Jammu & Kashmir.

Visit of Shimon Perez to India

†2708. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shimon Perez the External Affairs Minister of Israel has of date made a visit to India; and

(b) if so, the issues discussed with him?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The last time Mr. Shimon Perez Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Israel visited India was from 7—11 January, 2002. He had come to India to participate in the CII Partnership Summit in Bangalore. He utilised the opportunity to visit New Delhi to brief the Indian leadership on the current situation in the West Asia and the status of the Middle East Peace

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.